

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

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No. 1



Scriptures for Russia

President Burke presents a Testament to Archbishop Alexei

(Story on page 10)

The Shooting Is Over, But—

LET NONE of our readers suppose that because of the cessation of hostilities there has automatically ceased to be a demand for the Scriptures for the men in the nation's services. Because of rapid demobilization and because the loss and destruction incident to war are diminished, the demand has of course lessened, but since September first the Society has shipped to the Armed forces 19,993 Bibles, 131,884 Testaments and 344,421 Gospel and other Portions, a total of 496,238 volumes.

Nor is there any expectation that the demand will greatly diminish in the year ahead. It is reported that the Chaplain Corps in the Army and Navy will be established permanently at about 2,200, of whom 65 percent will be Protestant. These men will minister not only to the troops serving in Germany and Japan, at many of our nation's outposts in the Pacific, and on the ships and at the sea bases of our permanently enlarged Navy, but they will serve in the hospitals where hundreds of thousands of sick and wounded are being restored to strength and usefulness. In a re-study of the demands upon its Postwar Rehabilitation Fund last summer, the Society allocated \$958,805 as the anticipated cost of producing the books needed for the armed forces between July 1, 1944 and June 30, 1948, the greater portion of which would be needed before the middle of this coming summer.

The Scriptures meet every sort of human need. Just as they steadied the souls of men who were daily facing sudden death, so they minister to those who must spend day after day with nothing but routine duties to perform, and to those others who must learn in daily behavior what it means to love one's enemy and feed him. For men who must face life maimed and weakened, the Bible may be the most potent medicine that is offered them.

So it is, that there still come to the Bible House glowing letters from chaplains and men alike, imploring the shipment of fresh supplies of Bibles and Testaments; and other letters reporting the joy and strength which the books are bringing to the men.

District Secretary Bayless, who has through the Society's San Francisco Depository been valiantly trying to keep up with the demands of our men in the Pacific, received a letter in October from Chaplain George H. Winn, Jr., stationed on Okinawa, part of which reads as follows:

Last Friday evening I had a large crowd to Bible study, something over nine hundred. At that service I gave out dozens of the Bibles which have arrived. . . . I must have had two hundred come up to get a New Testament or Bible. The enthusiastic reception for these Bibles almost caused a fight! They pushed and shoved, trying to get their copies. They enjoy the Bible study. I have been going slowly through Genesis with them.

The ones to whom I gave New Testaments have returned, begging for a whole Bible. Our executive officer was asking me for a whole Bible when I took to him the New Testament a few days ago. I wish you could have witnessed with me the pleased faces on the men who received these Portions "of God's wisdom and love." It seemed for all the world like Christmas; and all the men were asking for my signature in their Bibles. In a sense it was Christmas, in the coming of the written Word. I am now serving two outfits—

1,800 men and 1,400 men. I could easily use a thousand more Bibles if they arrived here before Christmas.

I am holding services in chow halls, recreation halls, on hillsides, or just anywhere, but the major part of our services are being held in Conical Theatre Chapel. (Conical Hill is in our area—captured seven times after being lost to the enemy six times.)

Thank you very much for all that you and your staff and the American Bible Society have meant to us on Okinawa and to the spreading of the Gospel. It certainly has meant more than you will ever know. . . . If you could possibly spare 1,000 more Bibles for this outfit that has no regular chaplain, it would be a godsend. Send them to that base in my care, should you see fit to grant us more Bibles. In behalf of all my men, thanks a million.

Another letter, written after V-J Day from a chaplain in the Philippines, is typical of many that come bringing gifts for the Society's work. Chaplain Freeman B. Parker writes:

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Since V-J Day. The Chaplain was Protestant, his assistant, Jewish

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

*A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution
of the Holy Scriptures*

Volume 91

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Number 1

The Power of the Bible

By Dr. John R. Mott

EVERY TIME I visit the headquarters of the American Bible Society it impresses me as a power house. This impression has been deepened by each world journey. This should be so, for the Bible itself is the world's chief source-book of vital energy.

The Bible, more than any other book or collection of books, has power to enlighten. Its circulation has mounted into literally hundreds of millions. Without doubt it has become the most universal educational force in the life of the world. This unparalleled distribution of the Scriptures has commanded the attention of the masses on all continents, and has also occupied the minds of more distinguished scholars than have any other writings. The secret of the intellectual power of the Bible lies in the sublimity of its central theme and the enduring character of its message. In all the many centuries the thinkers and teachers of the human race have not been able to exhaust even one of its great truths and set that truth to one side.

The Bible has power to emancipate. It has burst more shackles and liberated more millions of human beings than all other influences combined. One need only recall the personalities and movements which broke the strangle hold of human slavery the world over, and the clear testimony as to the motivating factor in their triumphant efforts. The same is true with reference to superstitions which have darkened the souls of mankind. Christianity as set forth in the Scriptures is the best means of overcoming all forms of exploitation of life. It has indeed been the Magna Charta of the poor and the oppressed the world over. The rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, the master and the servant, under the influence of the Bible became sons and brothers of one another.

The Bible as no other book has power to console and deeply satisfy. The songs of life which sound in so many ears are in the minor key. To all such these marvelous writings bring gleams of unextinguishable hope. Sick-

No man living, probably, has seen more evidence of the power of the Bible in the world's life than Dr. Mott. For many years he has served as a Vice President of the American Bible Society, the British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland

ness and suffering, woe and death hover all around us, and there is no other book which so enters beneath the shadows of life with such comfort and blessing. One is reminded of the word of

George Fox, the great pioneer of the Society of Friends:—"I saw that there was an ocean of darkness and death; but an infinite ocean of light and love flowed over the ocean of darkness; and in that I saw the infinite love of God."

On every hand the world over are evidences that the Bible has power to transform (or civilize). The vital volume of Loring Brace, entitled *Gesta Christi*, sets forth in a most convincing way evidence showing that virtually all of the great transforming and uplifting forces for the amelioration of the condition of mankind owe their motivating cause and triumphant action to the principles, the facts and the forces set forth and conveyed by the original writings of the Christian faith. It would be difficult to overstate the vital part the circulation and study of the Bible have had in the uplift of backward parts of the world. The Bible is one silent, universal, irresistible missionary upon whose influence the Church can always and everywhere absolutely depend. "Bible religion," as Cardinal Manning emphasized, "is both the recognized title and best description of English religion. It consists not in rites and creeds, but mainly in having the Bible read in church, in the family and in private."

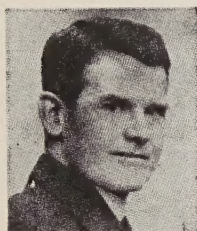
As no other writings the Bible has power to enrich. Jesus Christ declared that He came that we might have life, and that we might have it more abundantly. It has actually created scores of written languages and has purified corrupt and degraded tongues. What book is so well fitted to challenge and develop the reflective faculties as the Bible—a Book divine in origin, original in thought and sublime in teachings? It is due to its intensive value that the Bible owes the extraordinary veneration in which it is held by increasing multitudes. The more this great source-book of the Central Figure

of the Ages and of the Eternities is studied, understood and obeyed, the more rapidly will the highest civilization be advanced.

The Bible also has the marvelous power, so imperatively needed in these days, to unify. It has power to insure good will and right relations between the nations. It is a most striking fact that international law is a product of Christian nations. Peace and good will among men and nations are the ideal and achievement of Christ and His principles. The very statement that the Bible Society has printed the Bible in so many hundreds of tongues and dialects is in itself a demonstration of the

Bible's remarkable, unifying influence. Most impressive of all is the fact that the heart of the High-Priestly prayer of our Lord is that His followers might be one, and thus afford the climax apologetic, that the world may believe. It is the property of Jesus Christ and of the New Testament to be universal. Increasingly, therefore, the Bible has become the symbol and safeguard of Christian unity and of the genuine ecumenical movement. It is the fountain-head of spiritual life. It is the Deathless Book. "Heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away."

Reports from the Far East



Mr. Hudspeth

THE DOORS are opening so that word, long awaited from some of the areas shut off by the war, is beginning to reach the Bible House in New York.

China

Letters from Shanghai tell of the war years of the China Bible House and its staff. A number of the foreign members were interned, including Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hudspeth and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hobbs of the British Society, as well as Messrs. Baker, Morrison, Henderson and Milward of the Scottish Society. The experiences of the Hudspeths were particularly trying. On October 29, 1942 Mr. Hudspeth was arrested, taken to the infamous Japanese prison in Shanghai known as the "Bridgehouse," imprisoned there for more than three months and subjected, in his own gentle words, "to all those indignities in which the Japanese appear to delight." He was transferred to an internment camp for political prisoners for two and one-half years; and once each year he was permitted an interview with his wife, who was in another internment camp, the interviews lasting only ten to fifteen minutes. He could write to her only once a month. Later he was taken to Peiping and released there on September 6, 1945. He has since returned to Shanghai and he and Mrs. Hudspeth and Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs are now *en route* to England. Among the good reports is that the Hudspeth residence was recovered with its furniture.

After December 1941, when the foreigners were removed from the staff and Committee, Bishop E. S. Yü undertook executive supervision and upon his death was succeeded by Chester S. Miao, well known as one of the secretaries of the National Christian Council of China.

The plates of the China Bible House were happily hidden and escaped looting. There appears to be plenty of binding materials and printing presses in Shanghai, but there is a shortage of paper.

At one time the Japanese sealed part of the premises of the Bible House at 58 Hongkong Road, but now the

entire building has been restored. The staff who were at liberty had a difficult time because of very slight means of support.

The reports are not yet available of the Scripture distribution during the war period. Care has had to be taken in issuing Scriptures because of the efforts of speculators and hoarders to buy up even the paper in printed Bibles. There are therefore some stocks on hand at the present time: 2,700 Bibles and 17,000 Testaments.

In Peiping the Bible House is reported to be in good condition and to have functioned throughout the time of occupation, as has also been the case in the offices in Tsinan and Tientsin. The work at Kalgan in Mongolia, however, has had to close up. Mr. Almblad, the Secretary there, came to Peiping.



The Peiping Bible House was not damaged

Secretary Ralph Mortensen of the American Bible Society has reached Shanghai from Chungking and, with Mr. W. J. Baker of the Scottish Society and Dr. Miao, will undertake the development of the work of the China Bible House.

Mr. J. C. F. Robertson, who served in Free China after the fall of Burma through many difficult and trying months, has gone on furlough with Mrs. Robertson.

Mr. T. H. Lin and Mr. Findlay of the Scottish Society remain in Chungking. Mr. C. A. Rao will remain in Kunming for the present. Mr. D. P. Wong is returning from Kukong to reopen the work at Canton.

The staff in Free China have recently had the guidance of an important *ad interim* Advisory Committee, of which Mr. L. C. Leung has been chairman. As soon as conditions make it possible the leadership of the China Bible Society initiated in 1937 will assemble in Shanghai, and that Society will begin to take the leadership of the work with the assistance of the American, British and Scottish Societies.

The American Bible Society is now printing 100,000 Chinese Bibles and 200,000 Testaments as an initial supply, pending the resumption of printing in China. For this first year of liberation it is estimated that the requirements for China will be 100,000 Bibles, 300,000 Testaments and 4,000,000 Portions, and that the second year's requirements will be 200,000 Bibles, 700,000 Testaments and 6,000,000 Portions. What this means in the way of expanded service is indicated by remembering that, in an average year for the decade preceding the war, the American Bible Society distributed all over the world approximately 313,000 Bibles, 464,000 Testaments and 6,970,000 Portions.

Japan

As we go to press the information from Japan is meager. The latest, however, is taken from a letter received from the Reverend Kiyoshi Hirai, who has lately been appointed Secretary of the Japan Bible Society.

Mr. Hirai reports the resignation a few months ago of Mr. T. Tanaka, who was for more than thirty years a valued staff member of the American Bible Society's work in Japan, and from 1941 until his resignation, Secretary of the Japan Bible Society.

Mr. Hirai gives as the reason for Mr. Tanaka's retirement a chronic illness which, while it does not keep him confined, is very painful.

Regarding the Bible House, Mr. Hirai reports that the building was "almost perfectly safe" from damage by raids. The external appearance is much the same, the internal damage being entirely on the fifth and sixth floors. A fire which started across the street leaped to the Bible House sixth floor, which housed the Bible Society's offices, which were completely gutted. Although there was no loss of life, there was a loss of "every historical record of the Bible House, all reference books which had been used for the revision of the Old Testament, and many other things."

A fascinating letter to his family has come from Major George Aurell, at present stationed with the United States Forces in Japan and a son of Karl E. Aurell, the Society's agent in Tokyo from 1918 to 1939. After describing the utter destruction of most of the great buildings surrounding the Bible House, he says "... and then I walked around the Bible House and so report to you, Dad, that the Bible House came through, and it will be a cornerstone of future Christianity in Japan. I can just hear you say 'Praise the Lord.'"

Regarding the operations of the Japan Bible Society, Mr. Hirai writes: "During the war we could not do

much work in the publishing and distributing of Bibles. In fact, three years ago all Christian publishing companies were merged into one body called 'Shinkyō Shuppan Sha' (Protestant Publishing House). It was ordered that all Christian literature be published through their hands. Consequently the Bible itself had to be published in this way. At present we have no right [permission] to publish the Bible. We have a copyright but not the right to publish. Of course, we



The Tokyo Bible House is the six-story structure, extreme right. Note evidences of fire in top story. Building in foreground is the Christian Literature Building, dedicated at the same time, December 15, 1933

have been unable to publish because of the lack of paper and printers.

"Bible distribution was also stopped, because the traveling of the colporteur was almost impossible and the general attitude of the people toward Christianity was rather inimical. In other words, the proper work of the Bible House was practically stopped. What we have been doing during the war were only two things: the revision of the Old Testament and the managing of the Bible House building."

As to the revision of the Old Testament, Mr. Hirai gives the names of the scholars who have been faithfully pursuing the work during the war. He says, "We have almost finished the Prophecy of Hosea, some parts of the Psalms. We are now working on the Book of Job. Slow as the work seems, we are doing our best to accomplish the original plan of completing the work in five years."

Among Mr. Hirai's general observations is this significant one. He says, "The war has been a terrible



The post-captivity smile on the faces of Mr. and Mrs. Fonger—in front of their temporary Manila residence

experience to all of us. We are mighty sorry that we started it. You can hardly imagine how greatly relieved we felt when our Emperor declared to stop the war. We felt we were saved from that moment. Ever since your Army and Navy came over to our land everything seems to be completely revolutionized. The whole atmosphere seems perfectly changed, not only in political circles but in the general feeling of the common people. The people are becoming more and more democratic day after day.”

From a letter received from Chaplain Franklin Cole of the Navy we quote:

I thought you would be interested in what Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa replied when I asked him what American Christians could do to help Japanese Christians through this time of crisis. His answer was:

“We need your love and prayers. And send us Bibles! Most of our Bibles and stocks of paper were burned.”

I learned from other Japanese Christians that the price of a New Testament (when it can be obtained in either Japanese or English) is 250 times its prewar price.

Knowing that several hundred extra copies of the New Testament were to be found in the ships’ libraries of our fleet in Tokyo Bay, I collected them and took them to the Church of Christ-in-Japan headquarters, Kanda-ku, Tokyo. The Christians there were so grateful that actually several of them wept.

As you know, most educated people here read English.

Everyone apparently is interested in learning to read, speak and write it. I have seen and talked with several school children, all of whom are studying English. Certainly English Testaments are as welcome as those in the Japanese language.

From other sources we report this further statement from Dr. Kagawa:

Through suffering, privation and death, Japanese Christians were forced to go underground during the war. They have been prepared slowly, deepened spiritually and are now ready for the work of evangelism as never before.

The Bible Society is eager to supply as much of this need as practicable and has sent to chaplains in the Far East considerable quantities of Scriptures in Japanese. It has ready more than 25,000 Testaments and 20,000 Gospels of Luke and John. In addition, 65,000 Testaments with selected Psalms are being published.

Among all the discussions as to the problem of the remaking of Japanese life, it must be recognized that the one basic and most permanent solution is to give the Bible and the New Testament in Japanese a chance in the hearts of the Japanese people, a prescription that also applies to all mankind.

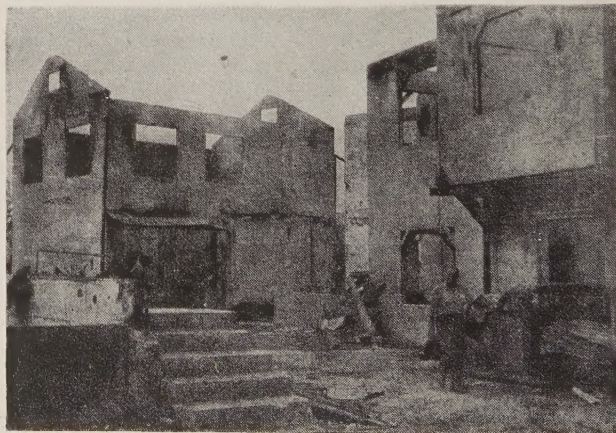
The Philippines

Too much cannot be said of the heroism of Secretary and Mrs. H. W. Fonger, who elected to remain in Manila for at least a year immediately after their release from three years of internment, during which their son died of malaria.

As the accompanying picture shows, the Manila Bible House (which also includes the Fongers’ living quarters) was completely gutted. The plates of the Bible in various Philippine dialects stored under the warehouse shown in the picture are being sent to this country for repair and early printing runs. Those in the Tagalog, Ilocano and Cebu languages left Manila for San Francisco on October 3, 1945.

Meanwhile a vigorous program of printing from plates produced photographically in this country has been carried on. Between February and October of 1945 there have been shipped to the Philippines 3,200 Bibles, 4,475 Testaments and 223,200 Portions in

(Continued on page 13)



Underneath the building at left were hidden the precious plates of the Bible in various Philippine dialects, 90 percent of which were unharmed

The Holy Bible

Set forth in 1611 and commonly known as the

KING JAMES VERSION*

By Henry H. Meyer

THE literary excellence and consequent widespread popularity of the Geneva Bible of 1560 in England did not protect it against criticism by the authorities and devotees of the established Anglican Church, who disapproved of the mildly Calvinistic flavor of its marginal notes. By reason of this criticism also, the Geneva Bible did not achieve ecclesiastical recognition for use in the church services, at which services the Bishops' Bible of 1568 had officially replaced the Great Bible of 1539. Nor did the apparent preference of Queen Elizabeth for the Geneva text dissolve the growing tension between the ecclesiastical authorities and the Puritans, as the more extreme Protestants of Calvinistic persuasion came to be called.

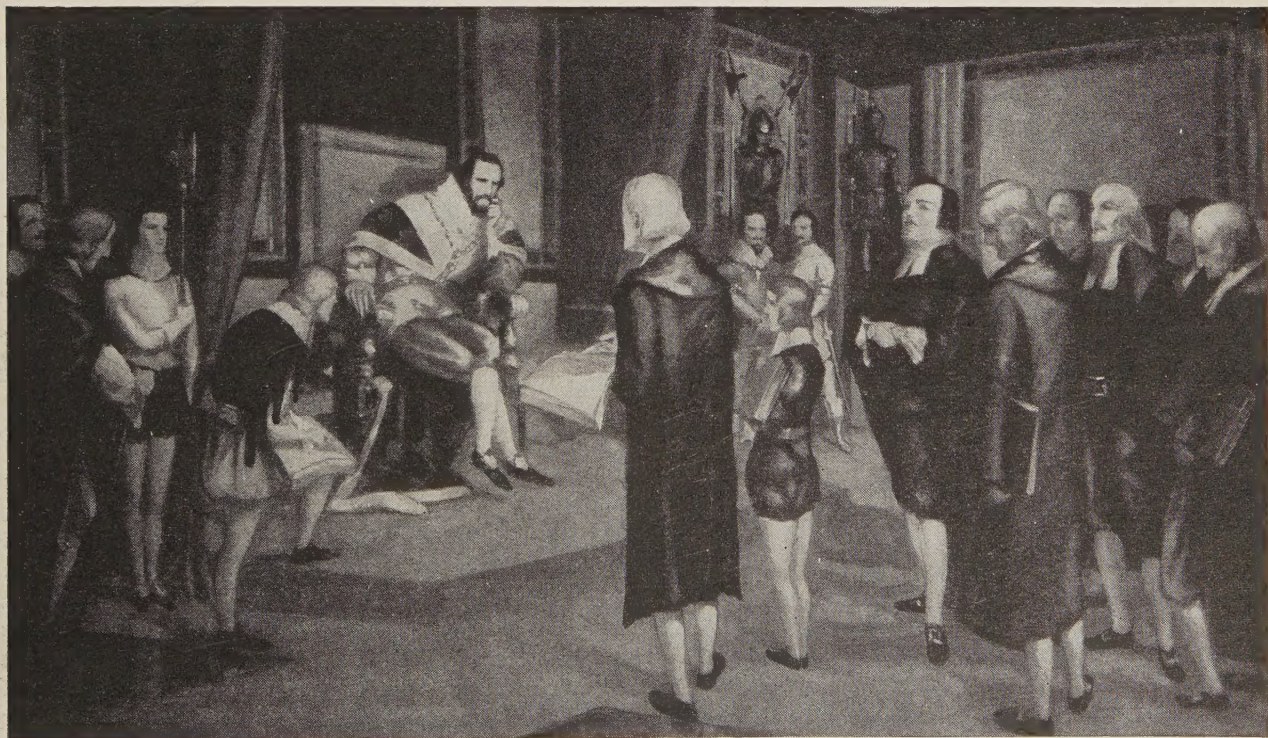
In Scotland the Puritan Reformation under the fiery preaching of John Knox, after his return from Geneva in 1555, had ushered in a popular armed rebellion against the Catholic queen regent, Mary of Guise. The triumph of the Scottish revolt was achieved with

*Cf. Articles on Early English Scriptures, *Bible Society Record*, Jan.-July, 1945.

the aid of Queen Elizabeth and swept away the old episcopal system with its subservience to royal control. This made it impossible for Mary Stuart, "Queen of Scots," upon her arrival from France in 1561, to restore the old order. Seven years later Mary fled from Scotland and found temporary refuge in England, leaving her infant son, James VI, to the care and tutelage of Presbyterian (Puritan) regents.

One result of these events, pertinent to our subject, was that James VI of Scotland, who on the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603 became James I of England, entered upon his arduous reign well qualified to understand and to deplore the rivalry between the supporters of the royally controlled Episcopacy or High-Church party and the Puritan or Low-Church adherents of the democratic ideals of Church and State.

Shortly after his coronation, James in January 1604 convened a conference at Hampton Court Palace to consider "things pretended to be amiss in the church," and including among other matters the more serious differences of opinion regarding the various Bible



Dr. Reynolds proposes to the Hampton Court the new translation for all the churches, 1604

translations. Although the king had been brought up a Presbyterian, the strictness of Scotch Calvinism and the Calvinistic renderings and footnotes of the Geneva Bible were repellent to him. At the same time his scholarly literary training and his knowledge of ancient languages gave him an understanding of the infelicities of translation in the Bishops' version, which High Churchmen defended.



The title page of the First Edition of the King James Bible

When finally the conference seemed to be bogging down in fruitless controversy the leader of the Puritan party, President John Reynolds of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, suggested that a new translation be prepared that might have the approval of the whole Church. This suggestion King James promptly accepted and proposed that the task of translation be entrusted to the best scholars in both parties, their product to be reviewed by the bishops and the chief learned men of the Church; by them to be presented to the Privy Council, and finally to be ratified by his royal authority, "the whole Church to be bound unto it and none other."

In accord with the King's suggestion great care was observed in choosing the revisers, among whom were some of the greatest scholars of the period. Such were: Dr. L. Andrews, afterwards Bishop of Win-

chester, who was familiar with Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Greek, Latin and other languages, and whose acquaintance with the writings of the early Church Fathers was unsurpassed; Mr. Bedwell, the greatest Arabic scholar of Europe; Mr. (Sir H.) Savile, Provost of Eaton and regarded as "the most learned layman of his time"; university and college professors of theology, Greek, Hebrew, the Old and New Testaments, and of the English language and literature; Puritan and Anglican churchmen, linguists and theologians, clergymen and laymen.

Of the fifty-four prominent scholars selected, forty-seven actually constituted the Committee of Revision. These forty-seven were divided into six companies or groups of from seven to ten members each, with two groups working at each of three centers of learning—Oxford, Cambridge and Westminster. Four of the six groups undertook the translation of assigned portions of the Old Testament and Apocrypha. Two groups shared the task of translating the New Testament. Strict rules for the guidance of the translators were adopted:

The basis for the translation was to be the Bishops' Bible.

Proper names were to be preserved as far as possible in their original spelling.

Old ecclesiastical words such as "Church" were to be retained (the word "Congregation" not to be substituted).

In cases of "divers significations" the word most commonly used by the "Ancient Fathers" was to be chosen.

No marginal notes were to be inserted except as necessary to clarify the meaning of the Hebrew or Greek.

Detailed procedures in translation likewise were prescribed to assure accuracy and consensus of judgment in the rendering of difficult words and phrases.

"Every particular Man of each Company, to take the same Chapter, or Chapters, and having translated or amended them severally by himself, where he thinketh good, all to meet together, confer what they have done, and agree for their Parts what shall stand.

"As any one Company hath dispatched any one Book in this Manner they shall send it to the rest, to be consider'd of seriously and judiciously, for his Majesty is very careful in this Point.

"If any Company, upon the Review of the Book so sent, doubt or differ upon any Place, to send them Word thereof; note the Place, and withal send the Reasons, to which if they consent not, the Difference to be compounded at the General Meeting, which is to be of the chief Persons of each Company, at the end of the Work.

"When any Place of special obscurity is doubted of, Letters to be directed, by Authority, to send to any Learned Man in the Land, for his Judgement of such a Place."

Two new Latin texts, one of the Old Testament and one of the entire Bible, then available, together with commendable French, German, Italian and Spanish texts were consulted. However, the Greek manuscripts to which the translators had access contained more copyists' errors than the manuscripts discovered later and used in subsequent versions.

The actual work of translation occupied about two years and nine months, after which the final preparation of the manuscript for the press required nine months more. Some time in 1611 the Bible was published in London in a fine black-letter folio with engraved title page and a dedication to King James.

There were maps, genealogies, marginal readings and some references. In the interesting and well-written preface the translators say: "Truly (, good Christian Reader,) we never thought from the beginning that we should need to make a new translation, nor yet to make of a bad one a good one— but to make a good one better, or out of many good ones, one principal good one. . . . but having and using as great helps as were needful, and fearing no reproach for slowness, nor coveting praise for expedition, we have at length, through the good hand of the Lord upon us, brought the work to pass that you see."

(To be continued)

St. Paul and the Bible

ONE WONDERS how many people in St. Paul, Minnesota (population 287,000) do not know for whom their city is named. However that may be, it is certain that hereafter more knowledge of the great Apostle will mark the city's life since the Bible Crusade closed there about two months ago.

Possibly the most promising result of the Crusade was the pledge taken by two thousand of the city's young people to read the Bible daily. The St. Paul Council of Church Women also inaugurated a program of daily Bible reading.

The St. Paul Crusade, conducted under the joint auspices of the local Ministers Association and the American Bible Society, was the latest of some thirty such crusades that have been held in various cities within the last few years.

Between October 21 and November 4 it was difficult to ignore the Bible in St. Paul. Nineteen Secretaries of the American Bible Society spoke 229 times. All but ten of the city's Protestant churches participated. Fifty thousand people read the Gospel of John and were encouraged to memorize one verse of each chapter. There were eleven broadcasts in the course of which the Gospel of John was read over the air by prominent citizens of the city. The opening broadcast by Governor Thye's secretary included the Governor's request that all St. Paul people turn to a reading of their own sacred Scriptures.

Twelve stores had elaborate window displays. St. Paul people brought in their old Bibles for the window in Shunneman's Department Store; and from residents of this city, which is less than a hundred years old, there came Bibles dating back to 1552.

The Gospel of John was selected by a vote of St. Paul people. Forty-five thou-

sand copies of the Gospel were distributed. In many cases congregations called door to door, leaving the Gospel, with a personal invitation to read it. Thirty thousand door-knob hangers and 25,000 bookmarks were distributed.

Eight motion picture projectors were used by the Bible Society Secretaries in showing the film, "The Book for the World of Tomorrow"—seventy-five times, in churches, clubs, colleges and high schools.

A business man in St. Paul said to one of the Secretaries, "I thank you for coming to our city. I have started reading the Bible daily, and it is the first time since I was a child." A woman at an information desk in a downtown store stopped one of the men and said, "I know you are with the Crusade. I just want to thank you for starting me on a program of Bible reading."



Store window display in St. Paul: "In this Book is the sure way to peace"

Scriptures for Russia

MANY fervent prayers have been offered that Russia in her postwar recovery might return to the Bible. The American Bible Society has been aware of its responsibilities and has been making such preparations as it could for the day which now appears to have arrived—when the Bible may again return to Russia's life. The resumption of the Society's service to Russia began most auspiciously at a Special Meeting of the Board of Managers of the Society, convened on October 10, 1945 to meet Archbishop Alexei Sergeyev of Yaroslavl and Rostov, who was on a special mission to the Orthodox churches in the United States at that time.

On the Board's behalf Secretary North presented a statement in which he said in part, "There are hundreds of thousands of Americans who are eager that the Holy Scriptures may have their supreme place of influence in the hearts and minds of all men in Russia, as well as in America, and in all other lands." He then referred to the service the American Bible Society had rendered to Russians during the war, especially Russian prisoners in Germany to whom, from 1940 to 1944, the Society supplied 300 Bibles, 25,829 Testaments and 271,682 Gospels. Reference was also made to the further supplies of Scriptures made in 1945 to Russians who were awaiting repatriation in Southern France; and to the edition of Russian New Testaments which the Society had already published in this country and the preparations which had been made for printing here a Russian reference Bible. Dr. North's statement closed with the expression of a hope that there might soon be established in Russia a national Bible Society, "for only as Christ is known as He *is* in the Scriptures can men give their full allegiance and receive His indispensable guidance."

Following Dr. North's statement, President Burke presented the Archbishop with a Russian New Testament, bound in red leather, with his name stamped in gold letters on the cover.

In the Archbishop's very gracious response he described how book publishing had to be suspended in Russia during the war and then said, "But I am happy to say that publishing activity of the Holy Scriptures has now already begun in Russia and the development of many things is planned. It is my great desire that this Holy Book will soon become available in greater numbers to the Russian people, who are indeed eager for this eternal Book; that it will be available, not only for the members of the Church, but for all men."

Secretary North then reported that the Society was presenting to Archbishop Alexei, in honor of his visit, 5,000 Russian New Testaments and Psalms and 100,000 copies of the Gospels, for transmission to Russia; and stated further that 500 copies of Nestle's Greek Testament for theological students and 50 copies of the Russian edition of the "Bible and the Nations" would be sent to Russia to the Patriarch.

In the picture on the front cover will be seen not only the special gift Testament but, on the table, samples of the books to be supplied in quantities, and also the Society's library copy of the first Slavonic Bible, printed in Ostrog, Russia in 1581 and a copy of the Slavonic New Testament printed in 1748.

NOTE: After the cover picture was taken and the photographer had left, the Archbishop expressed great disappointment that a picture of the Board had not also been taken for him. Accordingly such a picture was arranged for at the November meeting. As this is so unusual it seemed not inappropriate to include it here.



The Board of Managers in session, October 10, 1945. Standing, left to right, Mr. Greaves, Mr. Harbison, Mr. Clinkunbroomer, Dr. Woolsey, Dr. Joy, Mr. Leavers, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Hallock, Mr. Gillespie, Mrs. Haven (vice president), Miss Cutting, Mr. Binns, Miss Babbage, Mr. Tillinghast, Mr. Smith, Dr. Schieffelin (vice president). Seated, left to right, Secretaries Cropp, North, Mann, President Burke, Treasurer Darlington, Secretaries Stifler and Barrett

Bibles—Not Bombs—for Tomorrow's World

WHEN this slogan was decided upon as most fitting for the Bible Society's \$3,000,000 World Emergency Fund Campaign, which was to provide upwards of 11 million volumes of Scriptures for urgent needs all over the world, no such instrument of destruction as the atomic bomb had been heard of and certainly no one at that time by any stretch of the imagination could conceive of a force so powerful and so capable of



Belgian refugees on their way to France

annihilating an entire community in the twinkling of an eye. The record of its use speaks for itself, and no one can doubt the fact that comparatively few atomic bombs strategically directed could easily destroy world civilization.

How is man to stand up against such a force? The answer seems to lie in the few well-chosen words of Dave Boone, as contained in the New York *Sun* of August 9, when he says, "It looks as if man had better start harnessing the forces of the Spirit, the powers of Holy Writ and the electrons of the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments. The only 'atomic bombs' that will save mankind from now on are to be found there."

The disorganized, homeless, destitute and spiritually hungry peoples of the liberated countries of Europe as well as of the Orient have turned their faces toward America. Not alone for things material, but also for the Word of God—through which alone can come hope, courage and renewal of faith in the World of Tomorrow.

The war with its consequent sorrow, suffering and privation has turned men's thoughts once again to-

ward God and His Holy Word. The needs of the Bible Society were set forth in the November *Record* under the heading "Bibles—Not Bombs." These needs called for the production and distribution of upwards of 11 million volumes of Scriptures for the period of July 1, 1944 to June 30, 1948 at a cost of \$3,089,570. In support of this need, we repeat here a few of the scores of requests constantly arriving at the Bible House.

The Chief of Chaplains of the British Area of Occupation in Germany has sent an urgent plea for 50,000 German Bibles and 100,000 German Testaments. Another Chaplain in Hamburg requests 50,000 Scriptures immediately for German civilians.

A Japanese Christian leader says, "We need your love and prayers. And send us Bibles! Most of our Bibles and stocks of paper were burned. Our supply of paper, which used to come from Karafuto, has ceased since the Russians took over the whole of that island."

Two hundred thousand Chinese Testaments are now in preparation for the Chinese people and almost 12 million more Gospels and Testaments are ordered for shipment during the next few years.

The need for Scriptures for our service men in more than a hundred military hospitals, and for the 3 to 4 million men in our armies of occupation, is still great, and will continue to be so for several years. A great responsibility rests upon your Society; for surely men and nations must not be denied the Word of Life when the life of men and nations is at stake. Christian men and women of America have in their possession



Fleeing towards a place of refuge

the greatest opportunity for the building of a sure and firm foundation for tomorrow's world by sharing in the "Bibles—Not Bombs" program of their Society.

The Bible does teach peace and understanding, patience, love and all those other qualities so desperately needed by mankind. It has been the transforming agency in the whole life of some nations, and in sections in the life of almost all peoples. The Bible still releases these redeeming powers.

Our problem is to find the means to pay for production and still greater production. The Society has the facilities for distribution. We are on the threshold of a new age. Let us make it a Bible Age! Ten dollars will supply 44 volumes of Scripture; \$100 will supply 440; and other amounts in proportion.

Overnight Postscript

A RECENT mail brought a letter containing a check for ten dollars. The postscript to the letter was much longer than the letter itself, which was a simple request for some free samples of literature which the Society had offered in the October *Bible Society Record*. The postscript, dated the next day, read as follows:

Last night, after writing the above request, on going to bed, it seemed I just couldn't go to sleep. I began thinking of a blind man my husband and I had met a few weeks ago and with whom we conversed. I had never talked to one before. I asked about his condition and if he was a Christian. Said he, "One cannot afford to be otherwise!—Yes, I am. This (and he took up a Braille Testament and began reading to us) is from the American Bible Society."

From this line of thought my mind went to the great number of returned blind soldiers who would never see their loved ones nor the many beautiful things we who have our sight see. Then I thought of the selfish letter I had just finished and sealed to send out to you this morning. So I turned through your *Record* again before sending it off, and lo! my eyes fell on the article "The Bible in Braille," by S. Ruth Barrett (which I had not noticed last evening). So I'm opening the envelope and enclosing a check to help in bringing light to others. . . .

One of the assets of a small magazine is that it may be read in its entirety at a single sitting. To avoid the risk of losing a night's sleep it is recommended, on the basis of our donor's experience, that the Bible Society Record be read from cover to cover at some one convenient time.

The Shooting Is Over, But—

Continued from page 2

Enclosed you will find a money order for fifty dollars to be used in spreading abroad the Word of Life. This money represents part of offerings that were taken at my services some time ago. At that time I was with the 12th Replacement Battalion in northern Luzon. I had a tract rack and an offering box in the rear of my congregation where the men could place an offering for the work of the Lord. They responded very generously and I am happy to be able to enclose this amount from our unit.

It has been my great joy and privilege to provide our men with New Testaments. I have witnessed how the Word has found a lodging-place in the hearts of many, to the salvation of their souls. On one occasion I had let a Filipino, a very intelligent man, read one of your Bibles at his request. He was not a Protestant. He wanted to know the truth. He searched through the Bible at certain selected places one whole morning. I talked with him about the truth of God—and the way of salvation, not through works but through faith. I also showed him how Christ had become our High Priest and we no longer needed a human intercessor. We talked about the communion service and what it should mean. At the close he said he wanted to become a Protestant and asked if he could come to my communion service. He searched for the truth; and God's Word opened his heart to it when he found it.

You certainly have been faithful in arming us as chaplains with the Sword of the Spirit, in giving us the Word to pass on to the men. I deeply appreciate your kindness and I am sure I express the appreciation of us all. You are continually on my heart in prayer to our Heavenly Father. May the time soon come when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.



Gilbert Darlington, Treasurer of the American Bible Society and Chaplain of the New York Naval Militia, presents a ship's Bible to Lt. Commander Walter H. Kraemer, Duty Commander, after Church Services on board the newly commissioned Carrier U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, on Sunday, November 4, 1945. The Bible Society has been supplying Scriptures to the United States Navy since 1820. Over 2,341,000 copies were furnished the Navy by the Society in World War II. Many are still being supplied.

Reports from the Far East

Continued from page 6

several languages.

Secretary Fonger writes that he has established his office in the rear of the Central Church of Christ, which is only one block from the Manila City Hall, the present center of activities in the devastated city.

Korea

In Chungking, China, a few weeks ago, there came from the press a book which was striking evidence of international Christian cooperation. It was a Korean New Testament set up and printed by the Korean Colony of Refugees in China and printed with the aid of the British and American Bible Societies, the edition numbering 1,000 copies. This was done in Chungking, because at the time it was quite impossible on account of the blockade to ship any Scriptures in Korean into China.

In the United States an edition of 25,000 Korean Testaments was printed by the American Bible Society, toward which the Presbyterian Church in the United States made a generous contribution. Several thousands of these Testaments were sent to Hawaii for Korean prisoners of war there. From two of the prisoner-of-war compounds there have been received letters of appreciation, one of which reads as follows:

We, the undersigned, on behalf fellow prisoners of war wish to express our deep appreciation for your sympathy and generosity in sending us a great number of Korean New Testaments. These books have already been distributed among many Korean boys, and through which they have received spiritual blessings. We are always looking toward America as a beacon light of democracy shining upon every human race of the world.

We also take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the American Bible Society, to your government and people, for their generosity and sympathy shown to us Koreans individually and nationally. We want to assure you that we young Koreans shall build our new nation on the Christian principle.

Netherlands Indies

A brief mention in a letter from Chaplain Hoekendijk, who is representing the Netherlands churches in a mission to the Netherlands Indies, reports the death of Dr. Cohen Stuart, the Secretary of the joint work of the American, British, Scottish and Netherlands Bible Societies in the Netherlands Indies. No details were given, but it is known that Dr. Stuart was interned by the Japanese when Java was invaded early in 1942. We are informed that the conditions in the internment camps there were extremely distressing and severe.

Dr. Stuart rendered for many years most valiant service in dealing with the complicated language and publication problems of the Bible Societies in the Netherlands Indies. When the American Bible Society took over the administration in behalf of the other

Societies, Dr. Stuart in spite of changed conditions threw himself into the new problems with the greatest energy and devotion.

Chaplain Hoekendijk's letter reported that the Bible House in Bandoeng, Java is undamaged.

Testaments for Germans in Italy

FOR many months to come, these pages will report many unique and thrilling stories of how the Scriptures, here and there across the world, have been finding their way into the hands of those who have long waited for them. Much of today's world is like a vacuum into which a door of access has just been opened. There is an irresistibly compelling demand for those things which sustain life—food, medicine, clothing, shelter. The spiritual hunger of released peoples also cries out for satisfaction—and here the Bible comes in above all other forms of immediate relief that seem available.

So it happened a few weeks ago when Colonel Frank Brown, ranking Chaplain in the Italian Theatre flew a consignment of Scriptures to Prisoners of War in his area. As Robert Root, Secretary of the Department of Reconstruction and Inter-church Aid of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland, tells the story in the letter in which he sent the accompanying picture:

The shipment of Bibles and Testaments in the plane totaled 3,500 pounds. Funds for the books were provided largely by the American Bible Society, and they were donated for the German Prisoners of War in Italy by the Ecumenical Service to Prisoners of War, a division of the World Council of Churches. Chaplain Brown took the Bibles to Pisa and Naples and said that from there they would be distributed by German chaplains throughout the peninsula. The German pastors and soldiers may take the books with them as they repatriate, a process now going on rapidly. The shipment was valued at about \$4,000 and included 775 Bibles and 5,000 Testaments. Army trucks according to Chaplain Brown will be sent here later to take an equal number of Bibles and Testaments, or more, to Italy for Prisoners of War there.



A box of Bibles is lifted into a U. S. Army troop carrier plane, to be taken to German prisoners of war in Italy. At right is Colonel Frank Brown, ranking chaplain in the Italian theater, who supervised the shipment.



Editorial Comment



BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution of the Holy Scriptures

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to the
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FRANCIS CARR STIFLER
450 Park Avenue
New York 22, N. Y.



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Bible Reading Program

JANUARY

Date	Book	Chapter	Date	Book	Chapter
1	Psalms	1-4	17	Psalms	40,41
2	Psalms	5-7	18	Psalms	42-44
3	Psalms	8,9	19	Psalms	45-47
4	Psalms	10-12	20	Psalms	48-50
5	Psalms	13-15	21	Psalms	51-54
6	Psalms	16,17	22	Psalms	55-57
7	Psalms	18	23	Psalms	58-60
8	Psalms	19-21	24	Psalms	61-64
9	Psalms	22-24	25	Psalms	65-67
10	Psalms	25-27	26	Psalms	68
11	Psalms	28-30	27	Psalms	69,70
12	Psalms	31,32	28	Psalms	71,72
13	Psalms	33,34	29	Psalms	73,74
14	Psalms	35,36	30	Psalms	75-77
15	Psalms	37	31	Psalms	78
16	Psalms	38,39			

During the five Wednesdays of January Rev. David K. Barnwell will be heard on many stations of the Mutual Broadcasting System at 10:15 a.m., Eastern Standard Time. The series is part of the daily program entitled "Faith For Our Times." Mr. Barnwell's talks will deal with the Bible, its influence and power in the life of men and nations.

* *

We are indebted to the Salvation Army for the accompanying picture of General Evangeline Booth presenting a Bible to General Jonathan M. Wainwright. The inscription in the Bible referred to the hero of Corregidor as "a great Christian Soldier and Champion of Justice and Truth." In her remarks General Booth hailed the General as "fearless in battle,



heroic in defense, honored in victory, and beloved for himself." General Booth has been a Vice President of the American Bible Society since 1923.

November Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirtieth year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, November 1, 1945, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Secretary Cropp.

The death on October 29, 1945, of Mr. Franklin S. Edmonds was reported and the following Memorial Minute adopted:

Franklin Spencer Edmonds

FRANKLIN SPENCER EDMONDS became a member of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in January 1914. He became member of the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Bible Society in 1907 and was its counsel since 1924. He was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia and was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and of its Law School. For a period he was the Andrew D. White fellow at Cornell University, professor of law at Swarthmore College, and law teacher to the American Bankers Association. He practiced law in Philadelphia since 1904, being the senior member in the law firm of Edmonds, Obermayer and Rebmann. He at one time was Receiver of Taxes of Philadelphia, a member of the Board of Education and a Senator in the State of Pennsylvania at the time of his death. He was a nationally

recognized authority on taxation. He was a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, American Bar Association, American Economics Association, Historical Society of Pennsylvania and Beta Theta Pi and Phi Delta Phi fraternities. During the first World War he was in charge of a leave area for American soldiers in France. The dissemination of the Bible engaged his lifelong interest. He died at his home in Philadelphia on October 29, 1945. He was 71 years of age.

"The Lord gave, and the Lord
hath taken away;
blessed be the name of the Lord."

*

Progress was reported in plans for the Worldwide Bible Reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas, mailings having been completed to 112,000 Ministers, 8,000 Chaplains, 35,000 Educators, and 625 Denominational Leaders. To date, endorsements of the Worldwide Bible Reading Program have been received from 26 Governors.

It was reported that September sales for Scriptures increased 2.57% over September 1944 and were the largest on record for this month.

It was reported that two important shipments to Greece had been completed.

The following consignments to Foreign Agencies were reported:

	April	Volumes	Value
Latin America		54,423	\$7,293.08
May			
Latin America		66,124	9,737.09
Near East		1,085	843.65
Far East		110	44.02
		67,319	10,624.76
June			
Latin America		207,220	12,772.12
Near East		6,175	2,300.75
		213,395	15,072.87
July			
Latin America		161,554	10,294.18
Near East		2,380	363.74
		163,934	10,657.92
August			
Latin America		31,290	7,874.57
Near East		390	234.77
		31,680	8,109.34
September			
Latin America		24,154	6,468.62
Near East		135	46.38
		24,289	\$6,515.00

The issues from the Bible House for the month of April were 696, 653 volumes; May, 806,896 volumes; June, 446,777 volumes; July, 1,200,084 volumes; August, 709,616 volumes; and September, 841,671 volumes.

The meeting was adjourned.

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